

Appl. No. : 09/981,783
Filed : October 17, 2001

REMARKS

In the aforesaid amendment to the specification, the language of paragraph 5 is to correct an inadvertent error in describing the number of fibers shown in Fig. 3. The remaining specification amendments are to provide and substitute the corresponding U.S. patent numbers for the respective applications recited.

The amendment to Claim 7 changing "are" to "is" corrects a minor inadvertent grammatical error, and is not for the purpose of patentability, nor does it affect the scope of the claim.

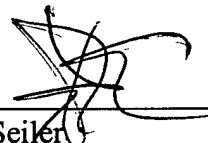
It is submitted that the aforesaid amendments may be entered without withdrawing the application from issue and thus recommendation by the Primary Examiner and approval by the Commissioner pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 3/10/05

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